

ESTABLISHED IN
1861

THE AMERICAN

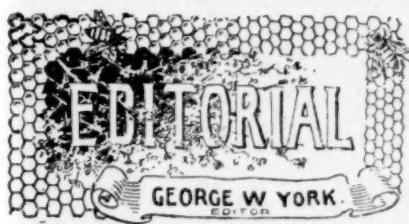
OLDEST BEE-PAPER
IN AMERICA

BEE JOURNAL

Weekly, \$1 a Year. | DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY—
TO BEE-CULTURE. | Sample Copy Free.

VOL. XXXIV. CHICAGO, ILL., AUG. 23, 1894.

NO. 8.



Look Well to your bees. Don't let them starve. See to it that each colony is supplied with stores, if they are not gathering any nectar from the flowers. The recent rains will no doubt help in many localities to insure honey for winter stores, if not a fall surplus.

Bro. Ernest Root, the Associate Editor of *Gleanings in Bee-Culture*, expected to be in Chicago the forepart of this week, and promised to call at the BEE JOURNAL office. He is on a visit to bee-keepers, riding his bicycle, and doubtless has seen quite a number of them while on his trip. Next week we shall be able to say more about our brother editor, who delights to sail around the country "on a wheel!"

The Next President of the North American Bee-Keepers' Association is already being speculated about "down East," we notice by the August *American Bee-Keeper*. It says: "We understand there are several candidates for President for the coming year," etc. That certainly is news here in the West. Why not think of a new Treasurer, instead, as we have held the heavy (!) "money-bag" of the Association for two years, and are ready to be relieved.

St. Joseph and N. W. Missouri (Illustrated) is a souvenir edition of the St. Joseph, Mo., *Daily News* recently issued. This is a book of over 140 pages, about 11x18 inches in size, and its object is "to show the advantages of St. Joseph and that section of the State as a desirable place of residence." It is beautifully printed on fine paper, and is indeed a pleasing "souvenir." We want to thank Bro. Abbott—the genial President of the North American, who lives in St. Joseph—for his kindness in sending us the above book. By the way, Bro. A.'s portrait graces one of its pages, including a short biographical sketch.

Buffalo, N. Y., is being urged by the *American Bee-Keeper* as the proper place for holding the North American bee-convention in 1895. We have no choice whatever in the matter, but presumed that Toronto, Ont., would have first claim, as we believe it stood second when St. Joseph, Mo., was selected last year. But we haven't the least objection to Buffalo for next year. Besides, Vice-President Hershiser lives near there, and doubtless would be glad to make the necessary arrangements for the meeting. He'd do it well, too.

Extra Honey-Gatherers.—A subscriber to *Gleanings* wished "to know whether it is possible to breed a queen whose workers shall be extra honey-gatherers, by tinkering or doctoring with the larvae of said queen before she hatches." Bro. Ernest Root answered the request for information, as follows:

"Certainly not. This thing has been brought up several times before, and certain old fogey bee-keepers have wisely said

they had the secret of manipulation, which they said they would sell for a certain sum. Man cannot step in and interfere in this fashion with the processes of nature. The only way to get extra honey-gatherers is to breed by selection—that is, by breeding from queens whose progeny excel others in the yard; and by this process, in time, a race of workers more energetic than the average might be secured.

"For some reason or other, but little attention has been paid to bees for business. The whole rage nowadays seems to be for color—five bands, etc. This is all right in its place, but we hope as much—nay, *more*—attention will be paid to bees for energy and longevity—in general, bees for business, because it is from these that come the dollars and cents. Extra color alone will not add another cent to the pocket-book, except—that of the queen-breeder, who breeds them just because his customers demand them."

Are You Going?—It's less than two months to the meeting of the North American at St. Joseph, Mo., on Oct. 16th, 17th, and 18th. Are you going to be one to help swell the number at that grand rally? Better go, if you can possibly arrange to do so. We now expect to "get there." But we are more anxious that others should go, who would be missed more than we would be. We hope that the old as well as the new friends may be able to attend. President Abbott expects all, and is preparing for a large crowd.

Bro. Roese, of Maiden Rock, Wis., has indeed had his full share of discouragements the past year or two. We have received the following letter from him, dated Aug. 7:

DEAR FRIEND YORK:—As I am confined on account of ill-health, but able to write a few lines to you, I will do so, for I know you are always glad to hear from bee-keepers. Calamity and misfortune seems to have been my lot of late. Since my first attack of "la grippe" two years ago, I have not been myself. It took all my usual ambition, energy and enterprise, and to care for my bees proves a task to me. But what addeth more to my discouragement, of late, is the coming home of my daughter from the Battle Creek, Mich., Sanitarium, sick with consumption. She was there engaged in medical missionary work, and must have contracted the disease in some way. And shortly after her arrival home,

my wife met with an accident—breaking her collar-bone, by being thrown from a wagon. But let come what may, I do not despair, so long as friends prove faithful, and God is the over-rueling power of all.

I hope that Providence may with protecting care watch over your life and health, and future prosperity.

Yours truly, STEPHEN ROESE.

We want to assure Bro. R. of our heartfelt sympathy in his many afflictions. It certainly takes a brave heart to bear up under them all. We do hope that he and his beloved wife and daughter may each be fully restored to perfect health, and once more enjoy life's pleasures.

Wonderful Upholsterers!—In the Chicago *Daily News* a short time ago was found this wonderful (!) bit of bee-information:

Skill of the Bee.—The bee is an artistic upholsterer. It lines its nest with the leaves of flowers, always choosing such as have bright colors. They are invariably cut in circles so exact that no compass would make them more true.—*Exchange*.

What a beautifully "upholstered" mind the fellow must have had who first originated this dainty bit of nonsense! When will the newspapers cease trying to give information on subjects they know nothing about? The question is easily asked, and only easily answered by quoting, "I don't know!"

The Carniolan Bees.—An exchange published in the State of Washington, contains this from a bee-keeper having some experience with the Carniolans:

Mr. H. W. Pallies says that his experience in shipping queens from the East has proven almost an entire failure with but one exception, the Carniolan bee. He says of this bee that he thinks it is the future bee for western Washington. The warm weather in February brought out the bees, and started them to work, when winter afterwards set in, in March, suppressing the workers. This is largely the cause of the shortage in honey this season. He claims of the Carniolan bee that it is not only harder for shipping, but working as well. He claims also that they are better honey-gatherers, and easier to handle than any other bee he has ever tried.

Editors and Doctors.—One of our subscribers says in a letter, "But editors and doctors usually receive their pay last." That man told the truth then, if he never

did before. But why should the doctor or the editor be the *last* to be paid. A good doctor is your best friend—then why neglect him? The editor of your helpful paper certainly deserves good treatment, for he usually works hard enough for what he does or doesn't get. But some day things will be different, for you know the "Good Book" says, "The last shall be first," etc. Then the editors and doctors will have their turn.

Oh, but the doctor and the editor have use for the grace of patience! What a blessing—to be patient. 'Tis said that "all things come to him who waits." But another also says "things come" much quicker if they're gone after.

Propolis for Corns.—Dr. Peiro has kindly translated the following for the BEE JOURNAL:

The *Revue Internationale D'Apiculteur* copies the statement that propolis has been found an effective remedy for painful corns. The sufferer made small plasters by spreading it on pieces of linen, warming the same slightly, and applying. In a few days all pain was gone, and the wearer could climb the mountains with perfect ease.

All Mothers should carefully read Dr. Peiro's department this week, and heed the wise suggestions he offers there. His article on "The Mother and Daughter" should be widely copied and read, for by following the hints it contains, many a daughter's life will be made happier, and her future welfare assured. Oh, so much responsibility rests upon mothers! Let us hope they will assume them, and discharge the duties faithfully, and with great profit to their children, who in after years will rise up and call them truly blessed.

Bro. Allen Pringle, of Canada, occupies two pages of *Gleanings* for Aug. 1st, with a very interesting article on "Honey Tariffs." This sentence will show the stand he takes:

If any foreign producer of the United States or any other country, can bring his honey here, 100 or 1,000 miles, paying freight, insurance, etc., and can afford to sell my neighbors and customers *pure* honey, as good in quality as mine, at a price lower than I am charging them, then I say, "Well done; welcome, stranger! you are the people's friend if not mine—you are either an abler man than I am, or more honest, or perhaps both."

California Honey-Plants.—Prof. Cook gives in *Gleanings* the principal sources of honey in California, so far as he has observed this season. They are as follows:

White sage, *Audibertia polystachia*.
Ball (or black) sage, *Audibertia stachyoides*.
Ball (or black) sage, *Audibertia Palmeri*.
Ball (or black) sage, *Audibertia Clevelandi*.
Blue phacelia, *Phacelia tanacetifolia*.
California clover, *Hosackia glabra*.
Small blue phacelia, *Phacelia circinata*.
Wild buckwheat, *Eriogonum fasciculatum*.

This last and the sages are the important honey-plants. They yield enormously, remain in bloom a very long time, and the honey from them is unsurpassed in appearance and flavor.

Of course, the fruit-bloom is very important. Much of it comes so early that the bees are not yet strong enough to secure much surplus from this source, though fruit honey is not infrequent in the California markets, and is far more important aside from mere stimulation than is the same in the East.

The above report of flowers is not full, but contains the most important. I ought to have included a small strawberry, or blackberrylike flower, *Horkelia California*, which is constantly visited by bees.

Saves Big Doctor Bills.—Bro. Leahy gave "Our Doctor's Hints" this much appreciated editorial notice in his spicy little monthly, the *Progressive Bee-Keeper*:

The "old reliable" AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL is trying to supply all needs of the bee-keeper and his family, "Our Doctor's Hints" being the last department added. It is quite instructive, and if heeded will save much suffering and big doctor bills.

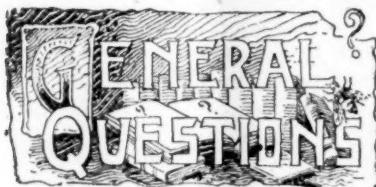
Husking Bees.—Here's another one on the "city chap," taken from the *Youth's Companion*:

"Bless me, my boy," said the country uncle, "there's no end of fun down at our place! You must come and see us in time for the husking-bees."

"Deah me!" said the city nephew, nervously. "I shouldn't care evah to husk a bee, unless some one would first wemove the swing!"

Rambler says in *Gleanings* that Prof. Cook recommends fumigation with burnt coffee to take skunk odor out of clothing; and suggests that the Professor "has been there with his Sunday clothes on, and knows!"

Great Premium on page 254!



ANSWERED BY

DR. C. C. MILLER,
MARENGO, ILL.

In this department will be answered those questions needing IMMEDIATE attention, and such as are not of sufficient special interest to require replies from the 20 or more apiarists who help to make "Queries and Replies" so interesting on another page. In the main, it will contain questions and answers upon matters that particularly interest beginners.—ED.

What About House-Apiaries?

Are house-apiararies a success generally?
D.

ANSWER.—At one time they were spoken of with a good deal of favor, but after a time seemed to fall into disfavor and were mostly abandoned. Of late, however, a few bee-keepers have again tried them, and are quite emphatic in their favor. Among these are B. Taylor and H. P. Langdon. Whether others will be equally successful remains to be seen.

Anxious to Get Increase.

I have had some experience in the bee-business this season, and I think I have learned something, but now I am lost to know what to do. In the month of June I doubled a colony by taking two frames out and putting into a new hive with the old queen with them, then placed the new hive on the old stand, and after three days a Carniolan queen was introduced, and the first time I opened the hive I found her, but she took to the wing, so the colony was left queenless again.

I then sent for another queen and introduced her. I gave them a good smoking, so as to make it sure, but I have not been able to find her. The old brood has now all hatched out, of course, and now there is none in the frames—nor as many bees as two weeks ago. The bees have brought in quite a good deal of honey. Now what shall I do? I wish to increase, if possible. The new colony on the old stand has done nicely, are packed completely full of bees—I have not seen a drone yet, and have not

found a queen-cell in either colony started during the season. E. H. H.
St. Johnsbury Center, Vt., July 30.

ANSWER.—As you are anxious to increase, your easiest way may be to give the queenless colony a frame of brood from the other colony, and in about three weeks time they will have a laying queen of their own rearing. If the other colony can spare it, give several frames of brood.

Tongues of the Carniolans.

Have Carniolans as long tongues as Italians ? E.

ANSWER.—From the fact that I don't remember that their friends have ever claimed that their tongues were longer than those of other bees, or that their foes claimed they were shorter, I suppose they are of the same length.

Preventing the Issue of Swarms.

Dr. Miller states somewhere in a recent number of the BEE JOURNAL, that he hopes to never see another swarm in his apiary. Will he be kind enough to inform the readers of the BEE JOURNAL what he does to prevent the issue of swarms ? and outline his plan of management during the swarming season ?

Seattle, Wash.

S. D. C.

ANSWER.—Now look here, are you sure I said I hoped never to see another swarm in my apiary ? I don't know the place to which you refer, but I'm pretty sure if I said so I didn't tell the truth. Much as I should like never to have another swarm, I'm afraid they will put in an unwelcome appearance in the future as in the past ; and hope means not only desire but expectation as well.

I have never succeeded in the entire prevention of swarming, but possibly it may do some good to tell one of the ways I have managed with swarming colonies. When a swarm issued, the queen was caged and kept in the hive till I was ready to attend to the case, which might be any time within five days. Of course if I was ready to attend to it right away it might be done then, but as a matter of fact I think the queen was always left caged for a day or so.

I took out the combs of the hive, one by one, shook off about half the bees, putting the combs with the remaining bees in a new hive. Then I put in the old hive a frame of young brood and two or three empty combs, sometimes

filling up the empty space with dummies, but oftener not. The super or supers that had been on were put back on, and covered up, then on top of this I set the new hive, giving it the queen. In about ten days from the time the swarm issued, I took away the old hive and put the new one down in its place.

Sometimes the colony swarmed a week or two after the queen in the new hive was put down, in which case it was treated just the same as the first time it swarmed.

The secret of success with this management lies in the fact that when the brood, queen and part of the bees are put in a hive and set on top, all the field bees leave it and go below, no honey is brought in, and under such circumstances the idea of swarming is given up and all the queen-cells torn down. And when the bees undertake to tear down queen-cells, they never miss any as you do.

If there is no one to watch for swarms, you can put a queen-trap at the entrance. Then when the swarm issues the bees will go back, and the queen will wait in the trap till you are ready to attend to her.

Fine queen-cells will be reared in the frame of brood left without a queen, and when the queen is put down you can set the old hive and its contents on a new stand, and you have a good nucleus started.

You might think that if the empty space in the hive were not filled up with dummies the bees would build comb in it. But I didn't have trouble in that way. Queenless bees are not much given to building comb.

But I've done nothing on that plan this year. For this year I've had my wish, and I haven't seen a single swarm. But along with it I've had something I didn't wish for, and I haven't seen a single section of surplus honey. I think I'd rather have the swarms than to have an entire failure of the honey crop.

Color of Box-Elder Honey.

What color is box-elder honey? W.

ANSWER.—If any one knows the answer to the above conundrum, will he please rise and give it. I confess I do not even know what the honey of *any* of the maples is like—box-elder is ash-leaved maple. The hard maple and the soft or red maple are considered abundant sources of honey, and they are so common that some one ought to be able

to tell what the honey is like, and it is possible that in some places the ash-leaved maple or box-elder is so abundant that its honey can be identified.

One reason that honey from any of the maples is not so likely to be known is, that it comes early in the season, when it is all used up for brood-rearing. For this same reason it matters very little what its color or taste may be, only so the bees get enough of it.

The Clover.

BY JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY.

Some sing of the lily and daisy and rose,
And the pansies and pinks that the summer
time throws
In the green, grassy lap of the medder that
lays
Blinkin' up at the skies through the sun-
shiny days;
But what is the lily and all of the rest
Of the flowers to a man with a heart in his
breast
That has dipped brimmin' full of the honey
and dew
Of the sweet clover blossoms his boyhood
knew?

I never set hevey on a clover field now,
Or fool round the stable, or climb in the
mow,
But my childhood combs back just as clear
and as plain
As the smell of the clover I'm sniffin' again;
And I wander away in a barefooted dream,
Where I tangled my toes in the blossoms
that gleam
With the dew of the dawn of the morning
of love,
Ere it wept o'er the graves that I'm weep-
ing above.

And so I love clover—it seems like a part
Of the sacredst sorrows and joys of my
heart;
And wherever it blossoms, Oh, there let me
bow
And thank the good Lord, as I'm thankin'
Him now;
And pray to Him still for the strength when
I die,
To go out in the clover and tell it good-by,
And lovingly nestle my face in its bloom
While my soul slips away on a breath of
perfume. —Exchange.

Capon's and Caponizing, by Edward Warren Sawyer, M. D., Fanny Field, and others. It shows in clear language and illustrations all about caponizing fowls; and thus how to make the most money in poultry-raising. Every poultry-keeper should have it. Price, postpaid, 30 cents; or clubbed with BEE JOURNAL one year for \$1.10.

OUR DOCTOR'S HINTS.

BY F. L. PEIRO, M. D.

McVicker's Building, CHICAGO, ILL.

The Mother and Daughter.

DEAR MRS. LOVEJOY:—I am so interested to hear from you, and hope to add such suggestions, from a medical stand-point, as may throw a soft light on some of the duties of a mother that at times are overlooked. I fully enter into your feelings and anxieties, well knowing that cares must come to daughters which only the loving counsel of a generous mother can modify or prevent. Upon such timely advice may depend happiness, or life, itself.

Girls usually are endowed with much sentiment—a sweet element in their nature, if properly guided. More than boys, are girls sensitive to tone of language and to acts of kindness. That mother makes a serious mistake who feels it necessary to scold and humiliate her children. Such irritability can only lead to one sad end—the loss of that filial regard, so dear to the heart of a mother.

At best, the first 20 years of a girl's life at home is next to drudgery, unless the many burdens are lightened by a mother's love and devotion. From her earliest years, the daughter takes even serious parts in the family circle; not infrequently circumstances conspire to make demands upon her developing physical forces that were much better conserved for years when Nature will bring under tribute the utmost resources of mind and body. Then, mother, dear, let your smiles and encouraging words far exceed your looks of reproof! Begin in babyhood to teach your child a mamma's deep love, and, when a school-girl, be not annoyed at the many problems that look to you for solution. Do not think to appease the many enquiries by evasions or rebuffs. Questions *must* be answered by you, or left to less competent, because less sympathetic, substitutes.

From childhood your daughter should be encouraged to best endeavors in the appreciation of that which is noblest in a social and literary sense. She should be early taught to seek companionship of the innocent and pure as playmates, and instructive books for the lonely hours. If not gently

directed to these, she may easily be misled by wrong influences in this the formative period of her life. Far better for her to acquire good tastes and judgment now, that she may the easier reject less profitable opportunities in years to come.

Let her mind and ideals have the widest scope, that she may the better judge, in the future, as to the merits of her surroundings. The highest advantages are not possible to *all* parents, I fully recognize, but I do know that many more, and greater, are quite within the reach of fathers and mothers who do not think it important that their children should possess them.

If need be, get books, pictures, papers less often, but get the best you can afford when you buy. Flowers are always sources of inspiration to girls. Hence, surround your home with many. In that corner of your house should grow two or three climbing roses; at the porch train a couple of clematis, a white and blue—their contrast is very effective; on each side of the walk plant several hardy roses, and close to its border a row of tulips for early flowering. To this list add what you both think attractive. By consulting your daughter's wishes, you also teach her the necessity of proper selections. Now, these plants will cost comparatively little, and with such care as the girl may be taught to easily give, you will have beautiful plants and flowers for years to come!

Just call to mind when *you* were a girl—the pride and satisfaction you experienced in receiving your young company in as pleasant and inviting surroundings. And your daughter is only a second edition of her good mother! Hence, nothing wonderful that her tastes and ambitions should so closely resemble.

One observation more, and I am done for the present. Mothers, *don't* be prudish to the extent of keeping your daughters in ignorance of the changes that are certain to come when years of puberty advance. How many girls have been terribly frightened at the first occurrence that marked the transition from girlhood to womanhood! She ought to have been advised in time, that she might have been prepared for this wonderful and new experience in her immediate life. You have been remiss in your obvious duty to her, if you have not, at some quiet moment, fully explained the nature and the purposes of this physio-

logical
for he

Also
when
tempt
that b
work

Fin
specia
have
spons
enter
tend
daug

I fu
ment
of em
Then
exp
to u
grat
a gi
her

C

1
Oct

Oct

Sep

Sep

Ja

Fe

Se
pr
er

Fe
Vi
8
T

logical change, and the manner of caring for herself at such a time.

Also, it is at this period of her young life, when nature makes urgent demands, that temptations are least resistible; it is then that her intelligent assurances are the bulwark of her heroic courage!

Finally, you will have evaded your special duty if, at the proper time, you have not fully suggested the inevitable responsibilities of married life, and have entered heartily into all the plans that tend to make a happy home for your daughter and acquired relations.

I fully trust to your good motherly judgment to consider the propriety and wisdom of enlarging on the suggestions here made. There is so much we all must learn by stern experience, and if happily some facts come to us in a milder or less exacting way, how grateful we should be! And to whom may a girl look for wisest counsel more than her mother?

CONVENTION DIRECTORY.

Time and place of meeting.

1894.
Oct. 4.—Utah, at Salt Lake City, Utah.
Jno. C. Swaner, Sec., Salt Lake City, Utah.
Oct. 16-18.—North American, St. Joseph, Mo.
Frank Benton, Sec., Washington, D. C.
Sept. 11-13.—Nebraska State, at Lincoln.
L. D. Stilson, Sec., York, Nebr.
Sept. 15.—S. E. Kansas, at Bronson, Kan.
J. C. Balch, Sec., Bronson, Kans.
1895.
Jan. 28.—Venango Co., at Franklin, Pa.
C. S. Pizer, Sec., Franklin, Pa.
Feb. 8, 9.—Wisconsin, at Madison, Wis.
J. W. Vance, Cor. Sec., Madison, Wis.

In order to have this table complete, Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of the time and the place of each future meeting.—THE EDITOR.

North American Bee-Keepers' Association

PRES.—Emerson T. Abbott....St. Joseph, Mo.
VICE-PRES.—O. L. Hershiser....Buffalo, N. Y.
SECRETARY—Frank Benton, Washington, D. C.
TREASURER—George W. York...Chicago, Ills.

National Bee-Keepers' Union.

PRESIDENT—Hon. R. L. Taylor, Lapeer, Mich.
GEN'L MANAGER—T. G. Newman, Chicago, Ill.
147 South Western Avenue.

A Binder for holding a year's numbers of the BEE JOURNAL we mail for only 50 cents; or clubbed with the JOURNAL for \$1.40.



CONDUCTED BY
MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY,
BEEVILLE, TEXAS.

Feeder—Swarming—Rains.

I have received a bee-feeder from P. M. Roby, of Kansas, that I believe is far ahead of all feeders. It hangs in the hive the same as a frame, and is so constructed that any amount can be fed at a time.

Some are wanting to know that remedy I have for swarming, that I spoke of when talking about non-swarming bees. All right; I will give the remedy in full, as soon as I have time.

We have had good rains lately, and fall flowers are springing up everywhere. It rained three hours yesterday, and yet looks like rain. I trust we may have a good fall flow. — JENNIE ATCHLEY.

Honey-Plants of Texas.

As we must know our honey-plants as well as our bees, if we wish to succeed, I will describe those giving our surplus, and blooming-time of the same.

First, I will begin with fruit-bloom, which is usually first in almost all States. That gives us much honey, and fruit-bloom in this State (Texas) some times gives a fair crop of honey. One year I harvested 30 pounds per colony from peach-bloom alone.

As fruit-bloom comes first, we had better see that all the bees have plenty of honey just after the close of fruit-bloom, as some seasons the bees get only honey enough from this source to get them started to brood-rearing largely, and if two weeks of bad weather, or two weeks without gathering any stores after fruit-bloom, may find many strong colonies starving, as it takes large quantities of honey to rear a large number of bees.

The next we have in Texas is horse-

mint (I am now giving the honey-plants of North Texas). This begins to bloom about May 20th, and fruit-trees usually bloom in March and go out by April 1st. So you can see the hard time on bees in North Texas, from April 1st to May 20th—nearly two months. Then comes a harvest from mint, if we have kept the bees going, otherwise the harvest comes and no reapers, which means a great loss.

Then after mint comes cotton, making a continuous honey-flow from May 20th to Sept. 1st. There are some plants not mentioned that usually keep the bees out of mischief, and giving honey sufficient for brood-rearing, but no surplus—such as ratan, milkweed, poison-vine, and others. But the honey harvests come from mint and cotton.

From middle Texas we get fruit-bloom in February, and mint on May 1st; and west Texas, buffalo clover in May, and sumac in August. These are splendid honey-plants, and the management should be the same in all localities where there usually comes a dearth of honey between fruit-bloom and our harvests.

In southern Texas we have wild currant in January, fruit-bloom in February and March, and when weather is favorable we get some surplus from these. April 1st we get a good crop of honey from catclaw and other plants. This lasts until May 1st, when horsemint begins, and lasts until June. Then mesquite begins, and we have here at this place (Beeville) a steady flow from April 1st until July—three months. Mesquite ends our summer flows, but when we have fall rains we get a splendid flow from flaxweed, called by some "broomweed," as it will make brooms. After broomweed we get no more until spring.

Bees usually begin swarming in north Texas on April 1st, and in the middle portion about March 15th, and here in southern Texas about Feb. 15th. These are the dates of the early swarms, and bees swarm on through the spring months until July, which usually puts a stop to swarming in Texas, unless we have good fall rains, then we sometimes have fall swarms.

I will give the honey-plants by States, giving the names and blooming time of all the principal honey-plants, or those that give our surplus, and to get a good honey crop we must have our bees strong at the time of the beginning of our honey-plants. This is why I am going over this ground so carefully, as much depends upon the management of our

bees before the harvest comes, if we wish to keep out of "Blasted Hopes;" so I cannot close this, it seems, without rehearsing the warning note: Keep your bees breeding, and get them in first-class condition to reap the harvest when it comes, and you will have less cause to grumble of bad seasons.

JENNIE ATCHLEY.



Virgin Queen; Unsealed Cells; Swarming

Query 937.—If a colony has a virgin queen, also unsealed queen-cells, is there any danger of swarming?—Virginia.

Yes.—EUGENE SECOR.

Yes, certainly.—J. H. LARRABEE.

Yes, in the swarming season.—DADANT & SON.

No, not as a rule. Destroy the queen-cells.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

Yes, if other conditions are favorable to swarming.—J. A. GREEN.

Yes, sir; there is some danger of swarming.—J. P. H. BROWN.

I think usually not, but I shouldn't count too safely on it.—C. C. MILLER.

Yes, if the swarming season and impulse is prevalent.—J. M. HAMBAUGH.

Yes, providing the virgin does not destroy the other queen-cells.—JAS. A. STONE.

Most assuredly. This is always the case where second swarms go out.—A. J. COOK.

Why, yes, that is about the condition when I should expect a swarm to issue.—C. H. DIBBERN.

Yes. If the extra cells are left in the hive, and the bees do not destroy them, they will swarm.—E. FRANCE.

If the colony has already cast a swarm, yes. They often throw off after-swarms.—MRS. J. N. HEATER.

Certainly, if in the season for swarming, and even if a little out of that season if the colony is very strong; but of

course other circumstances, as the weakness of the colony, or the dearth of honey, may remove that danger.—R. L. TAYLOR.

That depends entirely upon the strength of the colony, the time of year, and the honey-flow.—EMERSON T. ABOTT.

Yes! the young queen may induce swarming; if they did not intend to swarm, the bees would destroy the cells.—MRS. L. HARRISON.

They have been known to swarm under the above conditions, but not as a rule; for the second swarm issues about the time the last of the batch of cells are sealed.—S. I. FREEBORN.

Yes, there is a chance for it. Such pointed questions as this are very difficult to answer; not knowing any of the conditions, they have to be guessed at. I would suggest that our querists be a trifle more explicit.—W. M. BARNUM.

Yes, if the bees are strong and prosperous, especially as soon as the cells are sealed. If a colony of bees has any kind of a lively queen, and queen-cells sealed or unsealed—if the cells are not destroyed promptly, you may expect a swarm.—MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY.

Who can tell? I confess that I can't even guess. Much will depend upon the season, the condition of the colony, and other factors in the problem. What is the cause of the "virgin queen, etc."? That cause being given, the question could be more easily answered.—J. E. POND.

If a colony has a virgin queen, or a queen not a virgin, it will not have unsealed queen-cells, unless it means to swarm. As soon as a queen is hatched, all queen-cells will be destroyed, unless the bees mean to swarm. The larvae will be removed from unsealed cells, and the food in them consumed.—M. MAHIN.

Yes, if the season is propitious, and the swarming fever is on, the chances are in favor of a swarm. Under such circumstances, you can never be sure that no swarm will issue until cell-building is abandoned by the worker-bees, and the virgin queen has undisputed right of succession.—G. W. DEMAREE.



Bee-Paralysis Caused by Starved Brood.

*Written for the American Bee Journal
BY WM. M'EOY.*

Partially starved brood is the whole cause of the bee-paralysis.

For several years I warned the bee-keepers in times of sudden checks in the honey-flow, to look well after their bees, and either uncaps honey in the brood-chambers in the evenings, or feed so as to keep the colonies well supplied with unsealed stores.

Brood is always well fed when the colonies have abundance of unsealed stores. But if a check takes place so as to stop a honey-flow suddenly, while colonies have a large quantity of brood on hand, the bees will use up the unsealed stores very soon, and then the bees won't uncaps the sealed honey fast enough to keep pace with the amount of brood that requires feeding. Soon after that the small larvae will be found looking like little dried worms in the bottom of the cells without a particle of food. In some cells ready to cap, will be seen some of this starved brood, with a brownish color, lying on the lower side of the cells and turned up a little. Some of the capped brood dies through not being fed enough to last until hatched. And some of the bees that do hatch out of this scanty-fed brood, will be a day or two longer in hatching, and, when hatched, some of these bees will be dark in color, and scarcely able to fly. And when the owner sees the bees of the same hives in some cases killing off these useless bees, he will be apt to think them old, worn-out bees that are being killed off.

If the bee-keeper would see that his colonies of bees had plenty of unsealed stores while brood-rearing is going on, he never would be troubled with this state of things in the apiary.

I have just read the very valuable item on this subject, from Prof. Cook, on page 137. Prof. Cook has given out

Honey as Food and Medicine is just the thing to help sell honey, as it shows the various ways in which honey may be used as a food and as a medicine. Try 100 copies of it, and see what good "salesmen" they are. See the second page of this number of the BEE JOURNAL for description and prices.

the *only cure*, and it is simple enough. I say "only cure," because it was caused by partial starvation, and feeding *will cure it*. I always push the feeding to the front on my rounds through Ontario.

Well done, Prof. Cook; you have given both the cause and cure. This makes the second time that Prof. Cook has done big work for the bee-keepers. His first was settling, by test cases, the disputes between the bee-keepers and the scientists over the spraying of fruit-trees while in bloom.

Woodburn, Ont., Canada, Aug. 6.

Bee-Notes and Comments.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY DR. C. C. MILLER.

COTTON-WASTE. — That cotton-waste for smoker fuel, on page 167, is a good thing. I tried it, on Mr. Highbarger's recommendation. It is used *after* it has been used on axles of cars, and has been thrown away.

CLAMP STAPLE. — The same gentleman gave me a sample of clamp staple that is worthy of being more fully known. It is simply a very light staple bent in the form of the letter **U**, only bent at right angles instead of curved. The middle part is perhaps an inch, and the two legs not so long. For fastening the bottom to a hive, or to fasten the top for hauling, I don't know that I've ever tried anything I like so well. I don't know the expense, but it must be very trifling. From what Friend Highbarger said, I supposed they could be found in any hardware store, but I don't find them in Marengo, and I want to lay in a stock before fall.

WIRE-SCREENED PORCH. — I commend to the brotherhood that wire-screened porch of Bro. Lyman (page 168), especially as it is worth all its cost aside from the bees. At Huntley, 12 miles east of here, such porches are quite common, and I see they are working in here. It is pleasant to have the porch entirely free from flies and mosquitoes.

DANDROLICON. — If Dr. Peiro would color vaseline blue, perfume it heavily, and put it in two-ounce boxes, labeled "Dr. Peiro's Dandrolicon," price \$1.25 per box, I suspect there might be more dandruff cures than will come from his very plain, common-sense directions on page 172. Now, Doctor, can you give A. I. Root and me a prescription to stop

our heads growing up through our hair? or is it too late?

SYMPATHY. — However "broad" may have been my smile on reading Emm Dee's first article, my sympathies are fully aroused on reading the contrite confession of failure and punishment, on page 180. I'll not repeat the proverb, "Pride goeth before, etc." Here's wishing you better success in the future, Emma.

MILLER FEEDER. — I think Edwin Bevins (page 182) would be better satisfied with a Miller feeder than with his arrangement. With that, he could feed anywhere from an ounce to 20 pounds, fill up at any time without the possibility of a bee getting in the way, and with little labor and expense.

WIRED FRAMES. — John A. Balmer's interesting report of that 2,300-mile ride for his bees (page 183) is a strong argument in favor of wired frames. I think it quite likely that wiring might have saved those four colonies. With wires, a comb may become very soft without breaking down. But let an unwired comb break down, and the excitement of the bees increases the heat, making a general smash of all the combs, and the ruin of the colony.

SULPHUR FOR PARALYSIS. — If cures of paralysis by sulphur keep coming in without any failures, the case will look quite hopeful. Has any one tried it and failed?

"TAKEN DOWN." — On page 192, Doolittle's old man seems to be quite "taken down." Any one who would do anything to take down such a forlorn, dejected looking creature must be very nearly heartless.

Marengo, Ill.

Suggestions Regarding Bee-Paralysis.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY ADRIAN GETAZ.

Some of the readers of the BEE JOURNAL will be somewhat astonished to learn that bee-paralysis has always existed here, more or less, in all or nearly all the apiaries; at least for seven or eight years, and probably much longer. Nevertheless it is a fact. The malady is much worse some years than others, and generally much worse in the spring, precisely when we can the least spare the bees. Workers, drones and queens are infected. I have seen drones with

the sy from a eased v queens old, dis at some pose th too sick

The consider had bee his tree I fed shiny had be others lik lick th

It is hang a others, are no

My f was du dental combs came b burr-c

Wel says it the on a muc the gr and a worker Gayto to it I though the qu it by o

Som lis is.

Bac the sh rapid and v break piece break plent stand

Wh the l and l egg-s to th to th seeds circ then tions these ones place

the symptoms of the disease ejected from a queenless hive, the same as diseased workers. Frequently I have had queens not more than one or two years old, disappear during the honey-flow, or at some other unexpected time. I suppose they were superseded when found too sick to do their duty.

The first spring that my bees died in considerable numbers, I thought they had been poisoned by somebody spraying his trees too soon. A year or two later I fed outside, and concluded that the shiny bees, dying around the feeders, had been daubed in the syrup, and the others had pulled their hair in trying to lick the syrup.

It is a fact that the diseased bees will hang around the feeders longer than the others, but perhaps it is because they are not strong enough to fly in the fields.

My first eye-opener on the question, was during a honey-flow. I had accidentally left some honey from burr-combs close to the hive, and when I came back I found the pretended robbers trying to get into the hive, and the burr-combs untouched.

Well, what is the disease? Cheshire says it is a bacillus much smaller than the one that produces foul brood, and of a much slower growth. It is found in the grown bees more than in the brood, and more in the queen than in the workers. Cheshire calls it *Bacillus Gaytoni*, his attention having been called to it by a Miss Gayton. Miss Gayton thought the disease was connected with the queen, and had succeeded in curing it by changing of queens.

Somebody may ask here what a bacillus is.

Bacilli are microscopic "critters" in the shape of a stick. These sticks grow rapidly under favorable circumstances, and when they reach a certain length, break into two or more pieces. These pieces grow as well as the first ones, and break also, and so on as long as there is plenty to eat, and the other circumstances are favorable.

When the feed is about to give out, the last "sticks," instead of growing and breaking, contract themselves into egg-shaped "spores." These spores are to the sticks exactly what the seeds are to the plants. They can be kept like seeds perhaps for years, under certain circumstances, without any change, and then when placed in the right conditions, develop into sticks again, and these sticks multiply like the original ones as long as they are favorably placed to do so.

Foul brood is caused by a bacillus

called *Bacillus alvei*, which develops rapidly in the brood, but seemingly under difficulties in the body of the grown bees, though it is found there also. The spores are transported from one cell to another, also from one hive to another, by the bees, and even the apiarist. The disease can be prevented from spreading to the healthy hives by spraying the diseased bees with some antiseptic (phenol or salicylic acid). The operator is also to wash his hands and instruments carefully.

But these spores cannot live exposed to the air very long, some say not more than a few hours. On the other hand, they will keep their vitality almost indefinitely in honey, and when honey containing spores is fed to larval bees, the "sticks" develop at once with an astonishing rapidity.

Owing to the impossibility of reaching everywhere into the hive, and in all the honey, with antiseptics, the treatments with such have generally (not always) failed.

There is a similar disease attacking the silk-worms, but of a more slow growth, and developing itself in the moth as well as in the worm. If the attack is strong, that is, if the bacilli are numerous, the worm will succumb before spinning its cocoon, but usually dies in the cocoon. Often the silk-moth comes out of the cocoon and lays her eggs as usual. In such cases spores are found not only in the body of the silk-moth, but also in the eggs; and of course these eggs hatch diseased worms.

Generally, the spores come from the excreta of the diseased worms, or the putrefied bodies of the dead ones, and are swallowed by other worms when eating.

By what proceeds, it seems as though bee-paralysis is much more like silk-worm disease than foul brood. Like silk-worm disease, bee-paralysis develops itself gradually, and attains its full development in the grown insect. I have never seen any brood that did not look perfectly healthy, but for all that it might be diseased already—only on account of the slow development of the *Bacillus Gaytoni*, the disease would not show itself until much later.

The silk-worm disease is disastrous; bee-paralysis comparatively not. This may be due to the fact that as bees void their excrements, and also die outside of the hive (except in winter), the spores contained in their bodies are generally carried out. I do not know whether the queen transmits the disease to the brood by her eggs or not, but the fact that re-

242 AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL.

moving the queen has often cured the disease, seems to point to that direction.

What can be done? The treatment used to cure silk-worm disease cannot be applied to bees. The chief part of it consists in a microscopical examination of the eggs to ascertain if there are any spores in them, and reject all but the healthy ones.

Two processes suggest themselves: Since the disease resides chiefly in the grown bees, it is probable that salicylic acid administered in syrup, or some other antiseptic, would destroy the disease. The other consists in removing the queen to be sure she cannot transmit the disease to her brood through her eggs or otherwise; and at the same time spraying the bees and combs with some antiseptic (salicylic acid, phenol, sulphur, or perhaps salted water) in order to destroy what spores might be in the hive, and repeating the process until all the diseased bees should be gone.

The bees themselves help a good deal in checking the disease, by ejecting and literally carrying out the diseased bees; and since bees void their excrements outside, and also die generally outside of the hive, most of the spores are thus carried away. Somebody has insisted, however, that the dead bees ought to be collected and burnt, so as to avoid any danger from that source.

I have not tried anything yet.
Knoxville, Tenn., July 20.

Swarming and the Bee-Keeper.

Written for the American Bee Journal
BY S. C. MARKON.

What harvesting is to the farmer, what pay-day is to the editor, what Sunday is to the minister, swarming is to the bee-keeper. Proper swarming culminates proper management. By this, profit is made and loss sustained. Swarming, unlike wintering and seasoning, is directly controllable. Increase and surplus honey result from its method of procedure.

If I wish to double the number of colonies, is it that I must sacrifice my amount of surplus honey? No! For the reason that I may early divide the colonies, give laying and clipped queens (prepared in one or two frame nuclei to avoid swarming while mating) to the young colonies, and have them prepared for the flow of honey. If the season proves a failure, double up colonies to winter. The ways of sacrificing honey

for increase are numerous, and the majority of bee-keepers have already experienced them.

Again, let us suppose a bee-keeper—amateur or professional—managing an apiary. The proper way for him to proceed would be to have his hives ready and clean, with combs free from worms. He may, however, neglect hives and combs until swarming is already upon him, then with hurry and anger he rushes from point to place, upturning last year's negligence, overturning hives of honey, bee-bread and worms, himself blinded by the cloud of moths issuing from the pile, etc. The former looks upon swarming with cheer and complacence, the other with dread; the one gladdens its coming, the other fears; the one hives with neatness and correctness, the other with slovenliness and irregularity; the one succeeds, the other fails; the one we honor and follow, the other we shun and despise.

One remarked that by the chips he could tell the workman; so by the condition of the combs we can tell the story of that bee-keeper's life. No matter if he combine any trade or profession with apiculture—the amateur bee-keeper experiments, the professional learns. The amateur becomes the professional when he combines reason with the honey-bee's instinct—when he observes, notes and studies.

Right here I may say no science affords such a field of experience and pleasure as the culture of the Italian honey-bee. No science portrays the character of a man better. We can see men who are painfully economical in the apiary, and we see them fail. Indeed, no profession so combats economy as this. This profession is comparatively new, yet one very old. Progress was never greater nor faster than to-day, and who can see its climax? There are bee-keepers who will take every ounce of honey from a colony and leave them to gather their winter stores from the last of buckwheat or the frost-bitten flowers. What is there seemingly more cruel? Such businesslike little creatures, brimming with animal life, and their wonderful God-given instinct, gathering perhaps five or six fold their own consumption!

The art of bee-keeping is holding out its hand for men who are men, according to Emerson—men fit to tutor a family of intelligent children. Apiculture is becoming a pleasure with its ample gain.

Cardiff, N. Y.

Difference in Colonies—Other Matters.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY WM. M. BARNUM.

I wish some one would give a satisfactory explanation of the marked difference existing between different colonies of bees. If theory (fine-spun, at that) goes for anything, two queens reared from the same mother, at the same time, and under exactly similar circumstances—ought to produce practically similar workers. But they don't. There are not two colonies of equal value, in this sense, in the State—and what I want to know is, how can we recognize and alleviate this most important "discrepancy," with the least trouble.

Alley says "there are weak strains of bees;" and many of us have noticed that some colonies were later at work and earlier to return than others; more excitable natures among some colonies, and so on. We find, in fact, that bees differ most materially. Now, why wouldn't it be a good idea to endeavor to breed out the bad points, and breed in the good ones? A superior race of bees would surely result—and that's just what we are all looking for!

DEADMAN'S PICTURE AND APIARY.

Did you notice that picture of Deadman and his apiary in the July *Canadian Bee Journal*? It shows a model apiary, and a good-looking man. Deadman is a good writer, and we would like to hear more from him over on this side o' the line.

SHADE FOR HIVES.

The hot wave which swept over the country last month, makes the shading question pertinent and interesting. I would like to know, among other things, what will shade a hive effectually, as well as conveniently. The grape-vine does not prove at all convenient with me—too much in the way. A shade-board is liable to blow over against another hive in a heavy wind; and the fact is, I don't know so much about this subject as I used to think I did. Dr. Miller, try your hand at this conundrum!

CONFLICTING REPORTS.

Reports are conflicting this year, as usual. A recent bee-paper contained a report from Bro. Alley, of Massachusetts, who says "Bees are booming; best honey year we ever had!" Another man, from "'way down in Maine," says

in the same paper, "Bees starving—must feed for winter." And so it goes.

SAYS "BEE-KEEPING PAYS."

Thies, "the man from Illinois," makes the assertion in the last *American Bee-Keeper*, "that bee-keeping pays;" and he really ought to know. He says: "Let's stick to our bees, and do our portion of the work well, and they will pay as well as anything else." Every business has its ups and downs, and when one considers time and money invested, there are few better occupations than bee-keeping. It should be made a side-issue to some other good business, however; which will assist materially in helping out on poor honey seasons. His advice is good; whatever you do, don't give up your bees!

Denver, Colo., Aug. 1.

Making Sugar Syrup for Feeding.

Written for "Gleanings in Bee-Culture"

BY B. TAYLOR.

Feeding intelligently is, in my opinion, the key to certain success in honey-production. It now appears certain to me that it is impossible to winter bees with certainty in our Northern country, where they are confined five or six months, unless the hives are well filled with young bees when winter commences. Sometimes the usual fall flow of nectar from flowers fails; and the colonies, especially those that have made a large amount of surplus white honey, will cease to rear brood when their store of surplus is taken away, and I am now certain that such colonies cannot be wintered by any perfection of quarters or preparation, so as to come out in the spring sufficiently strong in bees to breed up strong for the white honey-flow; and without this, profitable bee-keeping, as the conditions and demands of markets now are, is impossible.

The remedy is, to feed the bees in the fall, when the flowers fail from any cause; and I know that, by expending 50 cents to \$1.00 for sugar, and making it into suitable syrup, and feeding it intelligently, it will cause a colony to continue brood-rearing, and have the necessary force of young bees that can live until another season begins.

Granulated sugar is the cheapest material to make this syrup of, as a dollar will now buy about 20 pounds at retail, which will make 30 pounds of syrup—

enough to send any colony into the cellar in prime condition. This sugar syrup, however, unless skillfully made, is liable to two serious faults—fermenting and granulating, either of which is fatal to success. I had learned to avoid these difficulties, but at the cost of considerable trouble, and I hailed any simple and certain means of making the syrup as a great boon; and I know that thousands feel as I do; hence, the question is one of great importance to bee-keepers in general.

When I read Mr. Tatman's article I decided to go to town at once and get the necessary material for a machine; but no team being immediately at command, I was compelled to delay. Alice Carey says, in one of her sweet poems—

"We cannot make bargains for blisses,
Nor catch them like fishes in net;
And oftentimes the things life misses
Help more than that which we get."

Being disappointed, I lay down for a restful nap. Here is the time and place where I do my thinking and dreaming. A vision presented itself to my mind. I had one of Bro. Root's uncapping-cans. Why would not this make a capital leach for making syrup? Here is the 12-gallon can below, for holding the syrup when made, with molasses gate all ready to draw it off. The top can will hold at least 150 pounds of sugar, with room for water. But this great weight will be too much, for the wire-cloth bottom will sag and spoil it. I will go at once and plan to overcome this difficulty. Oh, happy day! Bro. Root has anticipated this very need. He has put this large tin cone in the lower can for this very purpose. I had forgotten it was there. I had often wondered why it was made, as the cappings from combs, when extracting, are very light, and do not need it. It is now plain why it is there. Bro. Root truly sees things from afar off.

Yes, the thing is all ready for a perfect syrup factory, without a cent of expense, or a moment's delay. The flannel filter is the only thing needed. The can is 20 inches in diameter, and a circle was struck on a piece of stiff paper 22 inches in diameter, 2 inches larger than the can. This is to turn up one inch all around against the edge of the can, so the sugar can be pressed tightly against it, and a leak be prevented, and the syrup be compelled to leach through the cloth, for in this lies the secret of perfect syrup.

The paper was laid upon a sound piece of clean old bed-blanket, and three

pieces cut out; and as we were quite certain that we had found the "promised land," and that the thing was not an experiment, we located the can under the shop stairs, upon a neat platform high enough to get a suitable vessel under the honey-gate, to catch the syrup.

The flannels were spread upon the wire bottom, and carefully adjusted around the edge. Then 70 pounds of sugar was scooped from the barrel of granulated, sitting alongside. Two pails of water was poured on, and I lay down for a night of happy dreams.

Was I disappointed in the quality of the syrup? I should say not; and I am happy.

Thousands have these uncapping-cans, or others similar, and I need not add another word to this rather long story.

Forestville, Minn.

Bees Moving Eggs—More Proof.

Written for the American Bee Journal
BY EMERSON T. ABBOTT.

Mr. W. S. Mitchell, of Farmington, New Mexico, writes me as follows:

"I am not only satisfied that you are correct about bees moving eggs from one comb to another (page 49), but I am further convinced that they will move them from one hive to another. I once put a clean comb between two combs that were filled with brood and eggs, knowing that they had no queen, and thinking to put in a young queen by placing one or two capped queen-cells on the new comb. I neglected to put them in for several days, and when I went to fix them I found they had done the work, and had some three or four cells on each side of the comb, which I know had no eggs nor honey in it when set in the hive. I let them alone, and they went into winter quarters as good a colony as any one could wish."

Here is more testimony in the same line of that which I gave in the columns of the *BEE JOURNAL* not long ago. I am quite sure that bees do move eggs, and very frequently, at that; but I am not so sure that they go to other hives for eggs, as my friend Mitchell suggests.

St. Joseph, Mo., Aug. 4.

"I could not do without the *BEE JOURNAL* unless positively compelled to do so."—Mrs. Sarah E. Dawson, of Colorado, July 24, 1894.

Sam and Mandy "Keep Bees."

Written for the American Bee Journal
BY A. B. KEEPER.

"Hello, Boss!"

"Hello, Sam!" said I, looking up from my work with the bees, to see a colored man who lived a quarter of a mile away, coming up with excitement plainly visible on his ebony features.

"Give me a bee-box, quick, Mars

"What's wrong, Sam?" I inquired.

"Oh, Lordy, Mars Frank, I'se a gone nigger. Send fer Brudder Jones. Please, Mars Frank, pray a little, so's I can die easy!"

"Why, what's wrong, Sam? You're all right. It's only a bee-sting, I guess." Sam's face immediately cleared.

"Golly, Mars Frank; nebber tink of dat. Tink a rattler bite me, Tought I wus gwine to Glory, suah, dot time. Um-m-m-m-m! but he hurts!"

"Well, Sam. I suppose you want a

A SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SCENE MISSED BY "RAMBLER."



SAMBO.—"Dat's jes' my luck. 'Pears like ebery time I finds a wild honey-bees' nest, dem pesky ants jes' chase up an' down my neck like it was a race-coahse."

Frank. Me an' Mandy [his wife] done catch a swarm ob bees!"

"That so, Sam? How did you do that?"

"Laws a massy, Mars Frank, dere's been mighty 'citing times roun' our house fer de las' 15 minits, 'n don' you furgit it! Mandy done got stung tree times on er nose. Say, Mars Frank, fer de Lawd's sake, wad you suppose Mandy's nose'll look like now? Spects she done haf to tote it in er sling for er week —haw! haw!—Whoop! Gosh, a massy—um-m-m-m!" suddenly yelled Sam, executing a fair imitation of an Indian war dance, and clapping his hand to the calf of his leg. Evidently a stray bee had been squaring accounts with him.

hive for your bees."

"Dots wat I cum after, Mars Frank."

"Well, what kind do you want?"

"Am dey two kinds?"

"Oh, yes, Sam; there's a hundred kinds, but I only keep two."

"Wat's they wuth?"

"Well, Sam, you had better look at them."

Leading the way to the honey-house, I showed Sam the hives.

"Now, Sam, this is what is called a movable-comb hive," said I, taking out one of the frames of a dovetailed hive.

"Wha' dat, Mars Frank?"

"A movable comb means one you can take out of the hive and replace at any time, and thus examine your bees."

"Huh!" grunted Sam, rubbing his leg. "Don't tink I zamine 'em much. Done let Mandy do dat."

"Well, Sam, if you do much with your bees, you will have to examine them occasionally to see that they are all right, though you must not handle them too much."

"Um-m-m-m! dat sting hurts! Don't tink deys much danger in dat."

"Now, Sam, there is the hive complete, and here is where the bees store the honey which is for you; this lower part is where they rear the young bees, and you must not take honey from there. I will sell you the hive for \$1.75, complete."

Sam surveyed the hive critically.

"How you git de bees in um?" he asked.

"What have you got them in now, Sam?"

"Dey's hangin' on er tree, 'n de ole woman's bangin' er dish-pan under 'em t' keep 'em dar. Reckon Mandy's 'bout deaf by dis time."

"Well, Sam, you set the hive where you want it to be, and spread a sheet in front of it; get a basket and brush the bees off the limb into it, and empty them on the sheet—a few at first, and as soon as these few reach the hive, dump the rest out on the sheet. They will then all crawl into the hive, and you can remove the sheet. As no honey is coming in now, you will have to feed them then."

"How dat! Mars Frank? W'at you feed 'em?"

"Take a cupful of granulated sugar, and pour enough boiling water over it to make a thin syrup. I will come down bye-and-bye and show you how to feed them. Now, you had better hurry along, or Mandy will knock a hole through her dish-pan."

"All right, Boss. Yere's de money, an' I'll be gwine. How soon you be down?"

"Oh, in a couple of hours, I guess. Be sure and do as I told you, and make that syrup when you get the bees hived, so it will be cool when I come."

"All right, Boss; much erbleeged;" and Sam disappeared down the road.

In my next I will tell you about my first visit to Sam and his wife "Mandy." Darktown, Blackland.

One-Cent Postage Stamps we prefer whenever it is necessary to send stamps for fractions of a dollar. By remembering this, you will greatly oblige us.

The Great Drouth in Iowa.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY E. S. MILES.

Laugh, and the world laughs with you,
Weep, and you weep alone—

Not if you're a bee-keeper of Crawford county, for more than one will weep when they look in their surplus-honey receptacles this fall. Indeed, lamentations are now heard in the land, not only from bee-keepers, but by bee-keepers as well.

The following from the pen of Hon. J. R. Sage, of the Iowa Weather Bureau, in the *Iowa Homestead* for July 27th, describes the season, and also the reason for the above-mentioned lamentations, in a very interesting and truthful manner:

This is a peculiar season. As a matter of fact all seasons are peculiar, in that no two are exactly alike. But this season has been so far off from the ordinary run as to be unique and unprecedented in many respects. It opened earlier than usual, with most glorious promise. March came in wrong end first, beginning with ethereal mildness and ending with zero and blizzards. Farmers plowed, sowed, planted gardens the first half of the month, and rejoiced in the belief that the zone had slipped a cog to the southward. The last of the month they shivered over fires, or went out with overcoats and mittens, and saw the opening buds of tender plants frozen solid.

April was warmer than the average, with plenty of moisture, making it an ideal month for farm work and seeding operations. May brought phenomenal extremes of temperature, the general range being from 90 degrees down to the most damaging freeze ever known in this section at that stage of crop growth. This was a discouraging set-back, but if favorable conditions had followed it would have been one of the best of seasons. But the most disastrous feature of the season thus far has been the great drouth, which is likely to become historic. Certainly it is entitled to rank as a record-breaker, for this section never experienced such a season for aridity at this time of the year. Beginning early in May, it steadily maintained its withering grasp. Though most promisingly "broken" on several occasions, yet it declined to stay broke, and resumed business at the old stand. This State has been the center of its greatest severity, but in its scope it has embraced a considerable part of the corn-belt, and stretched from the Dakotas to Georgia.

Since the above appeared, the great drouth's business has certainly not fallen off any—in this part of the State, anyway. It has been the boast of this

county that it never had a crop failure. But this year small grain will be scarcely half a crop, and corn—our main crop—will be almost a total failure except for fodder. White clover is apparently all dead, and even our native groves are showing effects of drouth. On lots of the basswood trees the leaves are turning yellow and falling off. Nearly all streams are dry, and water will soon be as scarce as the proverbial "hen's teeth."

Of course it is extra hot, too—from 98° to 108° in the shade every day. All the honey I got from 12 colonies was about 18 pounds a piece, from the two best colonies, and they had ready-built comb. Basswood yielded only two or three days, and then not very liberally. No increase, but colonies all in fair condition. No prospects for a fall crop. We shall rejoice, however, in the success of our brethren who report through the "Old Reliable," and sympathize with those who, like ourselves, report a failure, knowing that it is only of the things that perish that we are short, and that of the things that endure unto eternal life, we are furnished an unfailing abundance.

Denison, Iowa, July 30.

Yellow Jasmine—Bees in the South.

Written for the American Bee Journal

MRS. C. L. RICE.

On page 180, Dr. Brown gives an interesting treatise on the yellow jasmine. Although the information therein is not new to me, as I had occasion to read up on the subject, still I was glad to learn that he agreed with me, that we have no cause for apprehension of evil in the use of honey from our section of the country, on account of yellow jasmine, as the quantity secreted by the flowers is so small that it could not affect our surplus, coming so early, it all being used in brood-rearing, and neither stored nor sealed.

Now, if the spring disease of bees is caused by the food given at that time, we cannot entirely obviate the evil; but, if on the contrary, it is caused by conditions in the hive and surroundings, then we must find a remedy.

Admitted that the disease appears and disappears with the coming and going of the flowers, we have usually the same conditions in the hive at the same period of the year—that is, sealed honey sweating, excess of room in the

brood-chamber, and little ventilation, causing cold and dampness, which, on the approach of warmer weather, are ameliorated, to a certain extent, while the quantity of brood and bees reared from the product of the fields, occupy the empty space; increase the warmth and ventilation, health is restored, and all goes merrily on to the harvest time, which opens in April. Such is the case with us.

What do the bees subsist on during the stress of dry weather? What do they do with the pollen stored? Remember, I am seeking knowledge for the benefit of bee-keepers in the South. Last spring our bees were almost entirely without stores. We began feeding about the middle of February, yet there were several colonies affected precisely as Dr. Brown describes, and they were the ones that had several frames of sealed honey and extra room in the brood-chamber.

We of the South have many lessons to learn before we can say, "We know it all;" and excuse me if I cross swords with you, Doctor, in the statement of facts.

Ramsey, La.

Reports from Members of Ill. B.-K. A.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY JAS. A. STONE.

The following is the July reports of prospects for honey, from the members of the Illinois State Bee-Keepers' Association. The questions are answered to correspond in number thus:

- 1st. How many colonies have you?
- 2nd. What are the prospects for a honey crop?
- 3rd. How much honey gathered to date?
- 4th. Is the honey gathered No. 1 or not?

Thos. B. Allen, Stirrup Grove, Macoupin Co.—1. 31. 2. Poorest I ever knew. 3. Not any; have not even put on sections.

A. B. Anthony, Coleta, Whiteside Co.—1. 27. 2. No more for this unusually dry season. 3. 200 lbs. comb. 100 lbs. extracted. 4. Basswood, and No. 1 for the kind.

F. X. Arnold, Deer Plain, Calhoun Co.—1. 95. 2. Very poor. 3. About 1,100 lbs. 4. No. 1 of its kind (honey-dew).

C. M. Beall, Clayton, Adams Co.—1. 8. 2. Some buckwheat sown, from which they will probably get enough honey to winter on. 3. None. I put on no supers, as the

white clover was all killed, and there is no basswood in this vicinity.

M. Bevier, Bradford, Stark Co.—1. 40. 2. Poor. 3. None.
S. N. Black, Clayton, Adams Co.—1. 35. 2. No honey. 3. None.

Peter Blumier, Roanoke, Woodford Co.—1. 51 in spring—5 swarms—total 56. 2. Very poor. 3. About 200 lbs. so far. 4. Good quality.

D. A. Cadwallader, Prairies du Rocher, Randolph Co.—1. 18, spring count; 27 now. 2. Medium. 3. 500 lbs. extracted. 4. Yes, clover and basswood, principally.

G. W. Cole, Canton, Fulton Co.—1. 24. 2. Very poor. 3. About 60 lbs. 4. No. 1. I saved one swarm; two went on a strike.

C. Covell, Buda, Bureau Co.—1. 35, and have the care of others. 2. Not good, very dry, and little prospects of fall bloom. 3. Not any—on the average enough for winter stores. 4. Basswood.

Dadant & Son, Hamilton, Hancock Co.—1. 350. 2. None. 3. None. 4. Will have to feed for winter.

Peter Dale, Granville, Putnam Co.—1. 135. 2. Very slim. 3. About 50 lbs. 4. Yes.

P. J. England, Fancy Prairie, Menard Co.—1. 26. 2. Poor. 3. 25 lbs. extracted. 4. No. 1.

J. D. Everett, Oak Park, Cook Co.—1. 34. 2. Fair. 3. 158 lbs. 4. No.

E. T. Flanagan, Belleville, St. Clair Co.—1. 250. 2. Poor. 3. None.

J. M. Hamaugh, Spring, Brown Co.—1. 130. 2. Exceedingly slim. 3. 2,500 lbs. 4. $\frac{1}{2}$ dark, $\frac{1}{2}$ better, but not No. 1.

Bernard W. Hayck, Quincy, Adams Co.—1. 25. 2. Not good. So far not enough to winter my bees on. 4. Not No. 1.

Leroy Highbarger, Leaf River, Ogle Co.—1. 80. 2. Very poor. The worst drought ever known—pastures all burnt up. 3. 100 lbs. clover, basswood and honey-dew. Bees are doing nothing now. 4. Clover and linden; I think, No. 1.

Wm. Little, Marissa, St. Clair Co.—1. 60. 2. For fall crops fair if rains fall. 3. My crop ruined by honey-dew. 4. Not good for anything but bee-feed.

Dr. C. C. Miller, Marengo, McHenry Co.—1. 202. 2. "Nil." 3. Nary a drop.

Adam Phelps, Springfield—1. 28. 2. Poor. 3. Not a drop. Bees on a strike these good old Democratic times.

Geo. Poindexter, Kenney, DeWitt Co.—1. 90. 2. Very poor. 3. 50 lbs. 4. No. 1.

Jas. Poindexter, Bloomington—1. 150, and 30 nuclei. 2. Think I will get the bees summered safely. 3. No surplus. 4. Basswood mostly.

Geo. F. Robbins, Mechanicsburg, Sangamon Co.—1. 79. 2. None so far; can't tell about the fall harvest. 3. No surplus to date, only enough to fill empty brood-nest. 4. No, chiefly honey-dew.

J. Q. Smith, Lincoln, Logan Co.—1. 62. 2. Poor. 3. 200 lbs., Alsike clover. 4. No. 1.

F. A. Snell, Milleville, Carroll Co.—1.

112. 2. Not very flattering. 3. About 600 lbs. 4. No. 1.

P. E. Vandenburg, Jerseyville, Jersey Co.—1. 38. 2. Poor—no surplus. 3. Not any surplus. 4. Don't know.

W. M. Van Meter, Era, Cook Co., Texas.—1. 8. 2. Not good on account of drouth. 3. About 100 lbs. 4. Very good.

F. C. Vibert, Hockanum, Conn.—1. 7. 2. Very poor—the severest drouth ever known is the cause. 3. 24 sections from two colonies, taken July 1st. 4. No. 1, as fine as I ever saw.

E. Whittlesey, Pecatonica, Winnebago Co.—1. 71. 2. Very poor. 3. None in sections. 4. No white honey—clover, linden, and honey-dew mixed. No No. 1 in this section of country. JAS. A. STONE, Sec.

Bradfordton, Ill.



Do not write anything for publication on the same sheet of paper with business matters, unless it can be torn apart without interfering with either part of the letter.

Comb Honey Three Years Old.

In June we used on our table comb honey three years old, and it had not granulated in the least. We had four sections of it. I kept it in a small sample case, on one corner of the mantelpiece in the family room. We keep honey from one season to the other without its granulating—keep it on top of the safe in the cook-room. Well-ripened comb honey can be kept in this climate any length of time, if kept in a warm, dry room.

J. D. GIVENS.

Lisbon, Tex., Aug. 11.

Stinging Horses—Honey-Laden Bees.

That item on page 141, about bees stinging horses to death, needs thinking about. Yes, it is quite apparent that the bees had been "robbed"—probably the combs were exposed to robbers; bees rudely brushed off with a wisp broom, honey dripped around the apiary, and everything done that well could be, to raise the fighting disposition to the war pitch. Had bee-escapes and gentle

methods been used, this could never have happened.

But that Crawford county bee-keeper's explanation won't go down with me. No, sir! honey-laden bees returning to their hives will not attack animals, no matter how hard the wind blows, or how low they fly. As well might one claim that it was the honest, industrious, sober workingmen, who were busy at work in the shops, who did the burning, looting, beating and killing during the late strike!

Bee-keepers cannot be too careful how they handle their bees during a drouth, and dearth of honey. Once get an apary on the rampage, stinging persons and animals, and 'tis no easy matter to get them quieted down again. Like the strike, such condition is much easier to avert than to cure after it has once broken out.

C. H. DIBBERN.

Milan, Ill.

A Terrible Fall.

On July 3, 1893, while trying to get a swarm of bees out of a tree, the limbs broke, throwing me on my back, and I fell 20 feet, alighting on my right shoulder, putting it out of place, and nearly breaking my neck. It put me to bed for nearly 3 months, permanently crippling me for life. I am still under the doctor's care, with a stiff neck. But I am now up and around with only 10 colonies out of 70 when I fell.

HIRAM J. WARD.

Farmington, Kans., Aug. 1.

Newsy Letter from Susie.

I guess you think I have forgotten you, but I was busy going to school, and saw Charlie Sanford's letter in the BEE JOURNAL, of August 2nd. It set me to thinking that I had better write, too, to let him know that at least one girl is interested in bees. Papa thinks he is a great bee-man, but I can't blame him, for I do like to hear about bees. I am a little afraid of them.

I have three brothers that farm 80 acres of corn and 60 acres of oats, and papa takes care of his bees. My oldest brother, Charlie, is 18, and graduated from the Lanark high school last spring. Robbie is aged 17, and John is 15. I have a baby brother just three weeks old, which mamma thinks she will call Atchley, because papa talks so much about Jennie Atchley! Well, this is all of our family. I have no sister.

We have 7 new colonies of bees. The

season has been very dry, and not very good for bees, but papa has taken off 175 pounds of honey, and expects to take off as much more in a few days. So he thinks he is doing well for this year.

I hope to hear from more boys and girls.

SUSIE WEED.
Lanark, Ill., Aug. 7.

Bee-Sting Remedies.

1st. Salt and baking powder, or saleratus, equal parts, dissolved in water, a strong solution. This remedy is simple but effective, and all bee-keepers probably have it on hand at all times.

2nd. Two or three folds of flannel dipped in hot lard, and bound on the part stung, will immediately relieve the pain, and stop the swelling occasioned by the sting.

3rd. The common onion, if applied to the wound, will immediately relieve the pain, if changed every few minutes.

4th. If the foregoing remedies should not be at hand, make a thin mortar of clay-earth and apply.

Now these remedies are simple, but effective. I should be pleased to have bee-keepers, upon trying them, report in the BEE JOURNAL. N. C. FEAKINS.

New Richmond, Wis.

Very Dry—Basswood Honey, Etc.

The honey season for this section of country seems apparently closed, unless we have sufficient rain soon to start up vegetation anew. Not having had any rain since two months ago, everything in the line of honey-producing plants is dried up. The pastures and meadows are as if scorched by fire. The forest trees begin to wither and dry up, for we have not even dew during the night.

Our bees are carrying in some pollen during the morning hours, but no honey, for robbing, wherever there is a chance, seems to be in order.

I have lived in this section of country for over 30 years, and I never saw a season so dry as this. The honey harvest is a total failure here, except in localities where basswood is in abundance. Those bee-keepers whose bees had access to basswood, realized a fair crop of good white honey; but where contrariwise—those whose bees were not in reach of basswood—will have to feed for winter.

It is a good plan for bee-keepers to not wholly depend upon nectar sweets for their living, for a little side-business.

250

AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL.

always comes in good—such as farming; small-fruit growing or poultry-raising. If one fails, all don't fail. Small grain crops have been comparatively good, but fruit of all kinds proved a failure.

STEPHEN ROESE.
Maiden Rock, Wis., Aug. 7.

Light Honey Crop.

In this part of Ohio some won't get a pound of surplus honey, nor a swarm. The best of us will get about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a crop. I had 21 colonies in the spring, and have had 9 swarms; also about 250 pounds of honey. But I am going to take the BEE JOURNAL another year.

Ridgeway, Ohio. MILTON LIMES.

Destroyed by the Drouth.

Our crops are, or will be, if we don't get rain very soon, a total failure. We have had a very severe drouth here, extending over a large area of land. Many people will suffer therefrom. Our bees would have done well this year if the dry spell had not lasted so long. My husband is a regular bee-lover.

Mrs. J. P. SIMMONS.
Forest Lake, Minn., July 26.

P. S.—August 8th, and no rain yet.
Our crops are lost.

Best Honey-Flow in 16 Years.

We are having the best honey-flow that we have had for 16 years, or since I have owned bees. White clover came first, then honey-dew. I find that the young acorns are blasted or injured by insects, and a thick, sweet substance drops out, covering leaves and falling on the ground like great drops of rain. I have secured about 50 pounds per colony, of very nice honey, some of it dark but mild flavored. A few colonies have stored 90 pounds each. I have it tiered up on the hives yet, as there is not much market for section honey here—they like chunk honey best. A party offered to take 60 pounds if I would cut it out and keep "them little boxes," and let him have it for $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents less on the pound.

Brimstone is used here to a considerable extent—no bee-literature wanted. One of my neighbors owned a colony (or gum) of bees that he claimed was so very cross that he could do nothing with them, so he piled straw (not "stray straws") around them, set fire to it, and got off a safe distance and threw rocks

at it. Result—loss of both bees and honey. I was offered \$2.00 to go six miles and take honey from one "gum" that no one so far had been able to rob. I did not have the time. I suppose it will meet with the same fate as the one mentioned above.

This is a land that flows with "blue milk and chunk honey."

Logan, Mo., Aug. 7. G. W. LOGAN.

Another Bee-Boy Heard From.

The Editor's answer to Chas. W. Sanford gives me the liberty to write. I am am an orphan boy, 14 years old. My grandma and I live together. We have kept a few bees in box-hives for the last 5 years, but since Mrs. Jennie Atchley moved to Bee county we have put them into frame hives.

West Texas is a paradise for bees. The wild currant begins to bloom the last of January and then continues to bloom until about the middle of March, and by that time there are plenty of other blooms for the bees to work on.

Will some of the bee-keepers let me know where I can get some catnip seed?

WARREN W. DOWNING.

Pettus City, Tex., Aug. 6.

Making Foundation Moulds.

Make a frame like a double slate frame with hinges, cut a piece of comb foundation the size of the frame, turn one frame bottom upward, with the comb foundation inside, lying flat on a table or bench; then make a little mortar of plaster of paris thin, rub on the comb foundation all over it, then fill the frame full of the mortar thick. When the mortar is well set, turn the frame over, shut tight together, and fill the other frame the same way. Make a back for each side, of some thin wood, and fasten to the back of each frame, then pry apart, peel off the comb foundation, and you have it.

Melt wax and use a dipping-board to get thin sheets of wax. Wet the machine and put the sheet of wax in as warm as you can handle it, and press the frames together, and you have an exact copy of the comb foundation you used in making the machine. I made one of the moulds but seldom use it.

There is scarcely any expense, and but little time in making one, and time put in using it is much better than spent in a saloon, though I hope very few if any bee-keepers ever patronize saloons.

We are suffering from a severe drouth.